

# **PRESS RELEASE**

**JULY 15, 2004**

## **SECRETARY OF STATE**

### **STATE ELECTIONS DIVISION**

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE OF 2004 STATE PLAN**

This public notice is in accordance with the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA). According to Section 256 of HAVA, the 2004 State Plan must be available for public inspection and comment thirty (30) days prior to the submission of the plan to the federal commission.

The preliminary version of the plan will be available for inspection and public comment from July 15, 2004, to August 13, 2004. The plan will be posted online at the official State website, <http://www.tennessee.gov/sos/election.htm>. The plan will also be available through the Secretary of State, Division of Elections, at (615) 741-7956 and at all local county election offices. Copies of the plan may be mailed, emailed, or faxed. Public comments may be sent to:

Department of State  
Division of Elections  
Attention: Cara Harr  
312 Eighth Avenue North  
9<sup>th</sup> Floor, William R. Snodgrass Tower  
Nashville, Tennessee 37243  
(615) 741-7956  
(615) 741-1278 (facsimile)  
[Cara.Harr@state.tn.us](mailto:Cara.Harr@state.tn.us) (email)

#### **SUMMARY:**

On October 29, 2002, President Bush signed into law the Help America Vote Act of 2002, which requires mandatory changes and improvements in the electoral process. In order to make these improvements, the federal government will provide funds to the individual states. These funds will be used to improve voting systems, to implement provisional voting, and to establish a statewide voter registration database. In order to qualify for funds under Title III, each State must design a long-range plan for implementing the Act.

An advisory committee was established for the purpose of assisting in the drafting of Tennessee's State Plan. The empanelled committee included the chief election officials of the two most populous jurisdictions within the State, other local election officials, stake holders (including representatives of groups of individuals with disabilities), and other citizens. All public comments will be reviewed and taken into consideration in preparing the final draft. The final draft will be submitted to the Election Assistance Commission for publication in the Federal Register.